DOCUMENT RESUME

ED 446 691 HE 033 545

TITLE	Resident Undergraduate Charges at California's Public Universities. Factsheet.
INSTITUTION	California State Postsecondary Education Commission, Sacramento.
REPORT NO	CPEC-00-01
PUB DATE	2000-01-00
NOTE	5p.
AVAILABLE FROM	For full text: http://www.cpec.ca.gov.
PUB TYPE	Reports - Descriptive (141)
EDRS PRICE	MF01/PC01 Plus Postage.
DESCRIPTORS	*Higher Education; *In State Students; Out of State Students; Residence Requirements; *Student Costs; *Tuition; *Undergraduate Students
IDENTIFIERS	*California; California State University; University of California

ABSTRACT

This factsheet describes the charges paid by undergraduate resident students at California's public colleges. The state charges its own residents less to attend its public colleges than it charges nonresidents, but it does charge systemwide fees and mandatory campus-based fees. These fees help support student services, but California has sought to avoid charging resident students for the direct cost of instruction, which it charges as "tuition" to nonresident students. Residency is defined by a state statue. In 1999-2000, the University of California was charging undergraduate California residents an average of $3,903 in mandatory fees, making the total $1,154 less than the average fee charged by the four public universities with which the University compares itself on faculty salaries. The California State University was charging its students an average of $1,830 in mandatory fees. Two graphs show how the charges for California residents have changed over the fiscal years since 1977-1978. (SLD)

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Resident Undergraduate Charges at California's Public Universities

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Factsheet 00-01 *January 2000*

CALIFORNIA charges its own residents less to attend its public colleges and universities than it charges nonresidents. It charges resident students systemwide fees as well as mandatory campus-based fees. These fees help support student services like counseling, health insurance, student union activities, student government, and recreation -- but it has sought to avoid charging them for the direct cost of instruction, which it charges as "tuition" to nonresident students.

Who are resident students?

California State University determines the residency of its students according to the California statute, which defines resident students for tuition purposes as those who (1) have resided in California for at least one year and one day prior to enrolling in a college or university, and (2) intend to make California their home. A student may demonstrate the intent to reside in California through a number of means, including obtaining a California driver's license, owning or renting property in the state, registering a vehicle in California, and paying California personal income taxes.

The University of California has adopted stricter residency requirements for its undergraduate students. It requires that students be classified as residents of the state in which their parents reside as long as they are classified as dependent upon their parents according to financial aid definitions. This generally means that out-of-state undergraduate students cannot establish residency until they are 24 years of age.

What does the University of California charge resident students?

For 1999-2000, the University is charging undergraduate California residents an average of $3,903 in mandatory fees, including a $3,429 systemwide fee which is 5 percent lower than the 1998-99 level. This total is $1,154 less than the average fee charged by the four public universities with which it compares itself on faculty salaries:

University of Michigan, Ann Arbor	$6,673
University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign	$4,770
State University of New York, Buffalo	$4,655
University of Virginia	$4,130
Average of the four universities	$5,057

What does the California State University charge resident students?

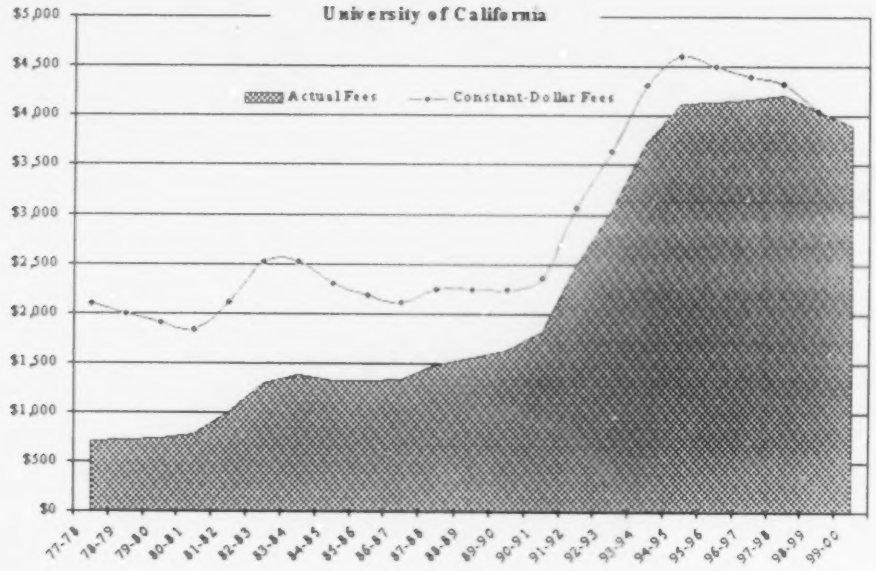
The California State University is charging resident students an average of $1,830 in mandatory fees, including a $1,428 systemwide fee which is 5 percent lower than the 1998-99 level. This total is lower than all of the 15 public universities with which it compares itself in terms of faculty salaries and $2,050 lower than the group average:

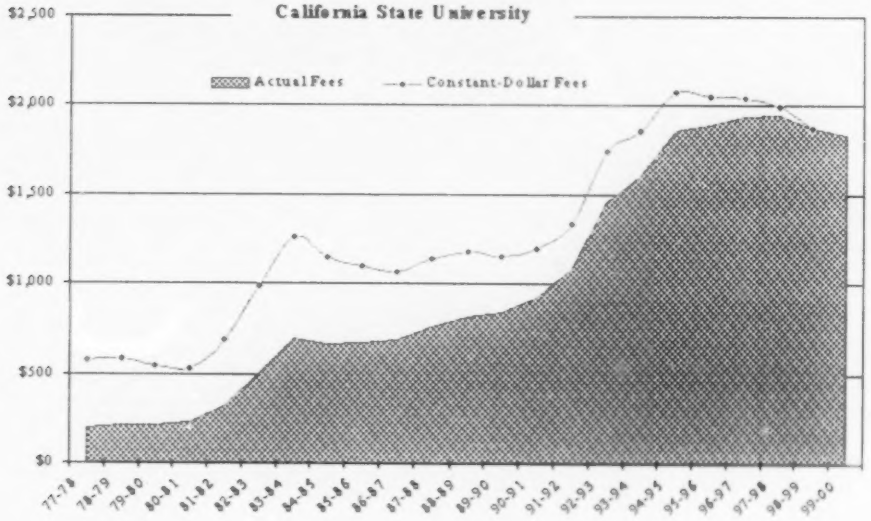
Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey, Newark	$5,833
University of Connecticut	$5,404
University of Maryland, Baltimore County	$5,160
George Mason University (Virginia)	$5,124
State University of New York, Albany	$4,453
Illinois State University	$4,285
Wayne State University	$4,127
Cleveland State University	$3,894
University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee	$3,743
Georgia State University	$3,358
University of Texas, Arlington	$3,336
University of Colorado, Denver	$2,548
North Carolina State University	$2,414
Arizona State University	$2,262
University of Nevada, Reno	$2,259
Average of the 15 universities	$3,880

How have charges for California residents changed over the years?

The displays on the reverse side show the average annual resident undergraduate fees at the University of California and the California State University for fiscal years 1977-78 through 1999-2000, expressed in actual and constant 1999-2000 dollars.

Total Annual Resident Undergraduate Student Fees, Expressed in Actual and Constant 1998-99 Dollars, for Fiscal Years 1976-77 Through 1998-99





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